



Energy and Environmental Affairs

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Department of Conservation and Recreation Announces School Vacation Programming at State Parks throughout the Commonwealth

BOSTON- April 13, 2017- The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) today announced the scheduling of family friendly programming that will be offered by the Department throughout the state parks system during next week's traditional school vacation week.

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"With warmer weather now upon us, I can't think of a better opportunity for families to visit a state park near them during school vacation week," **said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Matthew Beaton**. "The Commonwealth's state parks system offers excellent programming and plenty of access to explore the great outdoors."

Special school programming offered by the DCR, includes guided hikes, wildlife observation opportunities, algae sampling, history lessons, mansion tours, crafting, scavenger hunts, and more. Many school vacation activities are guided programs offered by agency staff.

"Within the Massachusetts state parks system are a diverse array of natural, historical, and cultural resources, and during this April school vacation week, I encourage everyone to get outside and visit a state park," **said DCR Commissioner Leo Roy**. "The Baker-Polito Administration continues to provide a high level of access for the Commonwealth's residents to enjoy and incorporate a healthy, active lifestyle into their daily lives."

Please find on the DCR's [webpage](#) a full list of programs and activities, most of which are free unless otherwise noted, offered during school vacation week. Due to the unpredictability of weather, please dress appropriately by wearing sturdy footwear and suitable outerwear. In the event of inclement weather, please call a location a head of time to confirm the program or activity is able to proceed. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

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The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), an agency of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, oversees 450,000 acres of parks and forests, beaches, bike trails, watersheds, dams, and parkways. Led by Commissioner Leo Roy, the agency's mission is to protect, promote, and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources. To learn more about DCR, our facilities, and our programs, please visit www.mass.gov/dcr. Contact us at mass.parks@state.ma.us.

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